

PRESS RELEASE

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OPERATION PANAMA EXPRESS EXTENDS INVESTIGATION TO JAMAICA

TAMPA, FLORIDA - United States Attorney Paul I. Perez today announced the arrest of five persons in Jamaica, and the unsealing of an indictment filed in Tampa charging eight individuals with participating in a conspiracy to import cocaine into the United States. U.S. Attorney Perez stated, "These arrests are evidence of the expansion of Operation Panama Express to include the Caribbean Basin and to focus on the sources of the cocaine supply in Jamaica and Colombia." Perez added, "The United States is truly grateful for the cooperation, assistance, and support provided by Jamaican law enforcement authorities involved in this investigation, and particularly in the take-down of these five defendants. "

The indictment, which was returned by a grand jury sitting in Tampa, charges the following persons with participating in a conspiracy to import into the United States at least five kilograms of cocaine and at least one thousand kilograms of marijuana: Robroy Williams (also known as "Spy"), who is 47 years old and a resident of St. James, Jamaica; Norris Nembhard (also known as "Dido"), who is approximately 50 years old and a resident

of St. Ann, Jamaica; Luis Miguel Avila-Arias (also known as "Miguel"), who is approximately 47 years old and a resident of Colombia; Vivian Dalley (also known as "Jungo"), who is 45 years old and a resident of St. James Jamaica; Presley Bingham (also known as "Presser" or "Butcherman"), who is approximately 40 years old and a resident of Jamaica; Glenford Williams (also known as "Toe"), who is approximately 51 years old, and a resident of Jamaica; Herbert Henry (also known as "Scary"), who is approximately 42 years old and a resident of Jamaica; and Ivan Kenneth Huggins (also known as "Rasta Teddy"), who is approximately 53 years old and a resident of Jamaica. If convicted, the defendants face a mandatory minimum of ten years' imprisonment up to life imprisonment and a fine of up to \$ 4 million.

During the early morning hours of April 20, 2004, officers of the Jamaican Constabulary Force conducted a massive take-down and search of numerous locations, in conjunction with Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. Their efforts ultimately resulted in the arrest of five of the seven Jamaican defendants and the seizure of numerous vehicles and other assets. Specifically, officers and agents arrested Robroy Williams, Norris Nembhard, Vivian Dalley, Herbert Henry, and Glenford Williams. These defendants will be held in Jamaica, pending extradition to the United States. The remaining defendants are considered fugitives. Ranaldo Ollie, the Country Attache for the DEA in Jamaica, noted, "This is a momentous occasion for all law enforcement agencies and officers in Jamaica and the United States. We have collaborated for months on this international investigation, and have diligently worked together to successfully disable one of the largest drug smuggling operations in Jamaica."

The indictment developed as a part of a larger investigation known as "Operation Panama Express." Numerous leads identified Robroy "Spy" Williams as the alleged leader of a large drug smuggling operation, based in Jamaica. Williams' organization has allegedly received thousands of kilograms of cocaine via speed boats, known as "go-fasts" traveling from the north coast of Colombia into Jamaica. After the cocaine was received by Williams' organization in Jamaica, it was stored until it could be transported by boat and/or airplane through the Bahamas and ultimately into South Florida, where it was subsequently distributed to other locations in the United States and Canada.

The case was investigated by ICE, DEA, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and numerous local law enforcement officers in Jamaica. The case will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Pamela Cothran.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.